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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/024,845	12/18/2001	James Turek	12964	6111

44986 7590 11/05/2004

WELSH & KATZ, LTD. (ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS)
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EXAMINER

CHANG, RICK KILTAE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/024,845

Applicant(s)

TUREK ET AL.

Examiner

Rick K. Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5, 11-13, 16-19, 27 and 33-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Inoue et al (US 5,706,570).

Inoue discloses in Fig. 1 a feed path along Y-direction and at the end of the path the connector is reoriented by 90 degrees; Fig. 2 shows a guide path with opposing walls (11s form a chute to define an entry section before the connectors are crimped by the crimper); a one-way feed assembly (40 and 41); a reciprocating press (Fig. 6); a linkage (Fig. 6); a wire guide (Fig. 8); a strip separator (col. 3, lines 59-60); a feed pawl (40 and 41); 40 and 41 are connected the linkages shown in dotted lines in Fig. 6; Fig. 6 shows in dotted lines of cams and linkages; col. 5, lines 12-67 and col. 6, lines 1-45 disclose the operation of the ram and the one-way feed assembly; Fig. 3 shows an open box extending rearwardly beyond an upper guide wall (11); Fig. 1 shows a twist section (to turn so as to face another direction¹).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

¹The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Third Edition copyright © 1992 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Electronic version licensed from INSO Corporation; further reproduction

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue et al (US 5,706,570) in view of Tillotson (US 5,799,391).

Inoue teaches the invention as described with respect to claims 1-5, 11-13, and 16-19.

Inoue fails to disclose a plurality of asymmetrical teeth.

Tillotson discloses a plurality of asymmetrical teeth (90 and 100).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Inoue by providing a plurality of asymmetrical teeth, as taught by Tillotson, for the purpose of evenly distributing the force apply to the connector strip.

5. Claims 8-9, 20-26, and 28-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue et al (US 5,706,570) in view of Ooji et al (US 6,530,257).

Inoue teaches the invention as described with respect to claims 1-5, 11-13, and 16-19.

Inoue fails to disclose providing a brake biased toward conveyance path and prevent lateral movement of the connectors.

Ooji discloses providing a brake (105) biased toward conveyance path (Fig. 5) and prevent lateral movement of the connectors (121).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Inoue by providing a brake biased toward conveyance path and prevent

lateral movement of the connectors, as taught by Ooji, for the purpose of preventing adverse effects of reverse feeding of the terminals.

6. Claims 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue et al (US 5,706,570) in view of Erhard et al (US 5,704,110).

Inoue teaches the invention as described with respect to claims 1-5, 11-13, and 16-19.

Inoue fails to disclose an adjustable trimmer.

Erhard discloses an adjustable trimmer (col. 4, lines 11-16).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Inoue by providing an adjustable trimmer, as taught by Erhard, for the purpose of cutting part way or all the way through the cable in response to the signals emitted by the comparator following the "reject" signal.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 10 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

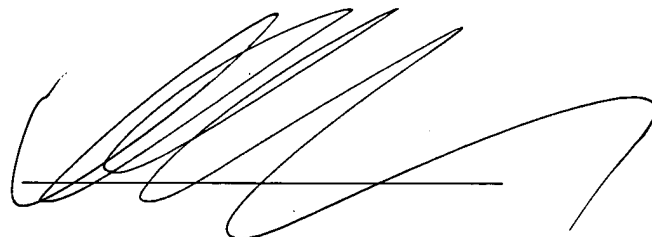
8. **Please provide reference numerals (either in parentheses next to the claimed limitation or in a table format with one column listing the claimed limitation and another column listing corresponding reference numerals in the remark section of the response to the Office Action) to all the claimed limitations as well as support in the disclosure for better clarity (optional). Applicants are duly reminded that a full and proper response to this Office Action that includes any amendment to the claims and specification of the**

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application as originally filed requires that the applicant point out the support for any amendment made to the disclosure, including the claims. See 37 CFR 1.111 and MPEP 2163.06.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rick K. Chang whose telephone number is (703) 308-4784. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Monday through Thursday.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9302 for regular communications and (703) 872-9303 for After Final communications.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a solid horizontal line.

**RICHARD CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

RC
November 1, 2004